

### REMARKS

The non-final Office Action mailed April 5, 2005 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1-45 are pending under a continued examination. Claims 1-19 and 21-41 are in condition for allowance, and remaining claims 20 and 42-45 stand under an anticipatory rejection over U.S. Patent No. 6,120,500 to *Bednarek et al.*

Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the indication of allowance on behalf of claims 1-19 and 21-41.

Reconsideration of the application, and withdrawal of the present rejections are respectfully requested in view of the amendments following remarks.

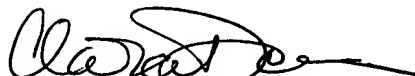
Concerning the anticipation rejection of independent claim 20 over *Bednarek*, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's characterization of *Bednarek*, and the contention that *Bednarek* anticipate this claim and its dependents, claims 42-45. However, to advance prosecution in this matter, Applicant has amended claim 20, thus rendering the Examiner's rejection of claims 20 and 43-45 moot. Amended claim 20 recites a second opening in the distal shaft section providing external access to, and in fluid communication with, a second lumen in the elongated shaft. *Bednarek* does not teach or suggest this element.

It is believed that the claims 1-45 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By:



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